

Arlington Open Space Committee Minutes

Meeting Date: March 27, 2014

Prepared by Elizabeth Karpati

Present: Jane Auger, Ann LeRoy, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Karpati, Michele Hassler, Patsy Kraemer, David White.

Absent: Teresa de Benedictis, Lisa Decker, Leslie Mayer.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with corrections.

Open Space Plan: Only projects of \$10,000 and up need to be put out to bid, so if we get \$9,900 in CDBG money as requested, we can simply go with Ralph Willmer at the firm VHB for a consultant.

This amount doesn't include money for printing. Last time we printed about 50 or 60 copies and put the whole report on line. Maybe we need to print only the hard copies required by the state plus a few more, e.g. for the Library, and fewer copies of the appendix than the text. Joey will look into what it cost last year so we can determine where to get funds for 2014.

For Chapter 5 we don't need individual aerial photos for each major open space; several nearby ones could be shown on one map. Wellington Park should be included; also Parallel Park? Town Hall Gardens? Include Thompson/North Union (spray pool) but not labeled as Thompson "School." The whole long table of all open areas needs to be checked.

How much should be shown on each map? Too much information, e.g. closely spaced contour lines, results in clutter. Maps could be customized to include just what is most important in each area, e.g. contour lines vs. unique features. To be discussed with Adam Kurowski, who was invited to this meeting but could not come.

If these maps can be made downloadable, that would be another item for our list of achievements. Elizabeth has started on a list of achievements (still incomplete) and will re-send it since not all committee members got the first copy.

Census Survey received about 6500 replies, 2000 more than last year, representing about 1/3 of Arlington households. Ann reviewed the results from the Open Space portion. It seems that many people don't know about some of the open spaces, at least not under the names used on the survey. The most popular way to get information about open spaces and programs was on-line. More information about open spaces could be put into the recreation brochure. A chart could be published periodically in the *Arlington Advocate*, and a series of articles about various open spaces. Some thought should be given to consistency of names used for open spaces.